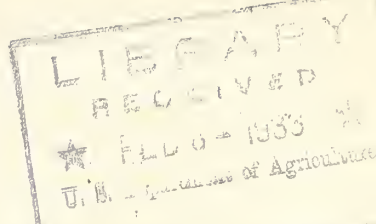


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WHY I JOINED A 4-H CLUB

A radio talk by Lucille Morisey, club girl, Paulding County, Ohio, delivered in the 4-H club period of the National Farm and Home Hour, Saturday, January 7, 1933, broadcast by a network of 58 associate NBC radio stations.

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I am one of a large family, ten girls and two boys. Ever since the first 4-H club was organized in our township some of us have been members. This year there were six of us in our clubs. We girls have learned to cook and sew, - my brother to care for livestock.

This is my eighth year as a club member. I have completed eight years of clothing club work and two years of food club work. For the last two years I have been assistant leader in the clothing club.

I remember when I used to watch my two older sisters go to their food club meetings and wish that I were old enough to go too. They had such a good time, learned so many things and had perfectly lovely lunches.

The summer I was ten a sewing club was organized in our township. Of course, I wanted to join both the food and clothing clubs, but wise Mother knew that such a small child couldn't carry the work of both so I joined the clothing club. I made my first dress that year, - my but I was proud of it!

I went to club camp that year too. Have you ever been to club camp? If you haven't, you've certainly missed a lot. I shall never forget that first camp! It was my introduction to outdoor life, - real outdoor life; the first time I'd ever slept in a tent or listened to stories and sung songs while seated about a blazing camp fire; the first time I really went swimming. There were only a small number present, as it was the first year we had held camp in our county, but it was a camp those present shall always remember and wish that they could re-live that week just as it was.

We held camp the same place the second year, but with a much larger attendance. The third year we held no camp, but that year will always be eventful because I received my first lessons in darning socks. What a job!

The year I was thirteen we had no county agent and the clubs were not organized. We were rather lost that summer without our clubs. However, we secured a county agent before the next summer and club work was resumed with a bang! That summer's work completed my first four years of work. Did I think of quitting now that I had completed the required work? Oh, no! I was more enthusiastic than ever. That summer I was fifteen and I joined both the food and clothing clubs and this was the best year ever. We again held camp - another never-to-be-forgotten week. But, better still, in the fall I was one of the delegates to be sent to Columbus for Club Congress Week. If you can imagine a country girl making her first real visit to a large city, constantly being entertained and educated, you will have some idea of what that week meant to me.

(over)

We became familiar with the college campus, as we held our instructive courses there. In the afternoons we went sight-seeing, - through the State Capitol, the Governor's mansion, a radio station and many, many more interesting places. We slept in one of the large hotels and our meals were served in two of the church basements.

We had a banquet one evening in the ballroom of one of the hotels. Were we thrilled! Yes, it was quite an event in our young lives. The week passed all too quickly and though we were all glad to reach home, we were sorry that such a glorious week must come to an end.

Another year of school had passed and again we were taking up our club work. I carried both the food and clothing club work and again attended a 4-H camp. I learned to make good angel food cakes that year and shall always be proud of that achievement.

The next year no food club was organized, but nevertheless I had enough to occupy my time as it was my first year as assistant leader of the clothing club. Early in the summer I began developing a demonstration team in my club. We worked hard and long as the work was new to us, but our efforts were rewarded. We won the county demonstration meet and were sent to the State Fair to demonstrate there.

Last summer I was eighteen. I again acted as assistant leader. During the summer I attended both the State and County club camps, - two wonderful weeks of instruction and entertainment. Nothing more need be said.

I do not intend to drop my club work, but will go on with it as long as possible. Thanks to my 4-H clubs I have learned to cook and sew. But that is only part of the benefits I have received. Four-H club work is a training of the mind and character as well as of the hands.

Do I think club work worthwhile? My answer, of course, is yes.

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